

HISTORY OF  
THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
OF  
HILLSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

BY  
CHARLES E. MADDRY

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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HILLSBORO

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## HISTORY OF THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HILLSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

The town of Hillsboro was laid out, according to Mr. Frank Nash, the historian, in the year 1754. It was first called Orange, but later Corbinton, after one of Earl Granville's agents. In 1759, it was changed again to Childsburg, in honor of the then Attorney-General of the Province. The name of the town was changed again in 1766 by Governor Tryon in honor of the Earl of Hillsboro, a kinsman of his wife.

Hillsboro was occupied by Cornwallis in 1781, at which time he paved a portion of King Street with cobblestones which served the town until 1928. The stones were then crushed and used to pave the street.

The State Provincial Congress met in Hillsboro in 1775, and the General Assembly met here in 1778, 1780, 1783, and 1784.

The long residence of Thomas Ruffin in Hillsboro attracted some of the best legal minds in the State to this western outpost, and the Orange Court was considered one of the most brilliant in the State during the early part of the eighteenth century.

### *The Coming of the Several Denominations*

The only church in the town at this period stood on the site of the present Presbyterian Church. It was erected by persons of the "Episcopal persuasion." By 1784, "it was so far gone in decay" that it had to be repaired. It then became a schoolhouse and "free meeting house with preference given to Episcopal ministers." It was afterward made famous as the place where the first State Convention met on July 21, 1788, to consider the proposed Federal Constitution. The constitution was rejected by one hundred votes. Therefore, North Carolina was not a member of the Union when Washington was elected President. After the first ten amendments, known as the "Bill of Rights," were adopted



by the first Congress and approved by the eleven states then in the Union, North Carolina voted to come into the Union. The Convention met in Fayetteville in November 1789, and



DR. AND MRS. CHARLES E. MADDRY

adopted the Constitution by an overwhelming majority. This session of the Convention was made forever memorable by a vote to establish the University of North Carolina.

### *The Coming of the Several Religious Denominations*

The Episcopal Church, known as St. Matthews, was organized about 1816. Tradition says that the lot upon which the church stands was given by Judge Thomas Ruffin.

The Presbyterian Church was organized and the house was built upon the site of the former Church of England sometime between 1812 and 1816.

The Methodist Church was organized in 1856. The first church house was built in 1857.

### *The Baptists Late in Coming*

The Baptist Church was organized on November 19, 1853. From the best information obtainable, it seems that the first Baptist preacher to hold services in Hillsboro was the Reverend Elias Dodson, a native of Virginia and a graduate of the College of William and Mary. He was highly educated and was a very zealous home missionary, and a brilliant scholar. He preached in the Courthouse around 1844. When the new Courthouse was built in 1845, he bought the old Courthouse and rolled it intact up the street to the corner of Churton and Queen streets, and it became the First Baptist Church of Hillsboro. The church was organized in this building on November 19, 1853.

The organizing council consisted of the Reverend T. W. Toby, Reverend Amos Jones, Jr., Reverend A. D. Blackwood, and Deacons T. G. Faucette of Mt. Hermon Church, William Ward of Mars Hill, Sidney Lea of Yanceyville, and A. Oldham of Cane Creek.

The sermon was preached by the Reverend T. W. Toby who had been a missionary in China, but who had recently returned to America because of the illness of his wife.

The council organized with the election of Reverend T. W. Toby as Moderator and Reverend A. D. Blackwood as Clerk. The following presented letters of dismissal from Mars Hill Church: H. C. Stroud and Sarah Stroud, William J. Freeland, John Holloway and Martha Holloway, John Cheek and Mary J. Cheek, Jesse Hedgepeth, J. S. Watson, Mary S. Watson, Margaret Heart, Eliza A. Christmas, Fannie C. Christmas, Ellen McCallum, and Tempy Faucette, fifteen in all—six men and nine women.

At the first meeting of the church in conference on



November 19, Mrs. Susan W. Graham, wife of Governor William A. Graham, joined the church by letter.

On November 19, the new church met in conference and H. C. Stroud was elected Clerk and John Cheek and H. C. Stroud were elected deacons.

On February 26, 1854, the church met in conference and called Reverend A. Jones as pastor. He accepted the call. It was decided to observe the Lord's Supper quarterly, viz., March, June, September, and December. It was voted to have a prayer meeting every Thursday night. It was voted to have church conference on the Saturday night before the fourth Sunday in each month.

The church has had a total of twenty-seven pastors in one hundred years. It is difficult to determine from the church minutes just when some of these pastors began and ended their work. We give below the names of the pastors in the order in which they came as recorded in the minute book:

Amos Jones, Jr., Thomas J. Landsdell, Moses Baldwin, John Mitchell, J. L. Carroll, N. W. Wilson, W. R. Gwaltney, F. H. Jones, W. R. Harrell, W. L. Wright, C. C. Newton, G. W. Harmon, N. B. Cobb, Wade D. Bostic, Charles E. Maddry, A. C. Hamby, Ira E. D. Andrews, John C. Hocutt, J. R. Green, S. W. Oldham, W. R. Beach, J. R. Cantrell, C. A. Caldwell, W. W. Abernethy, A. K. Cheek, J. P. Deaton, and Charles E. Maddry, who is now serving as pastor for the second time.

#### *Church Clerks*

The following have served the church as church clerks: H. C. Stroud, J. E. Jones, J. M. Blackwood, J. E. Jones, J. M. Blackwood, J. E. Jones, M. W. McCallum, Dr. J. S. Spurgeon, J. H. Evans, J. J. Ward, M. P. Lloyd, W. B. Coleman, Mrs. J. L. Rosemond.

#### *Lighting the Church*

At first the church was lighted with candles. We learn that at one time the church treasurer reported that the church was behind in the matter of incidental expenses and that thirty dollars of the amount was for candles. After the Civil War the house was lighted with oil lamps and the



treasurer reported a deficit for oil. On June 26, 1916, the church voted to have the church wired for electric lights.

### *Church Discipline*

In the early days the church paid strict attention to the matter of church discipline. Each member was required to attend church conferences at least once in every three months. Committees were appointed to wait upon members who were careless in their attendance upon the meetings of the church. If a reasonable excuse could be given, the member was excused. If the member refused to answer the summons, he or she was excluded from the church.

At various times it is recorded that members were excluded for adultery. Drunkenness was not tolerated in a church member.

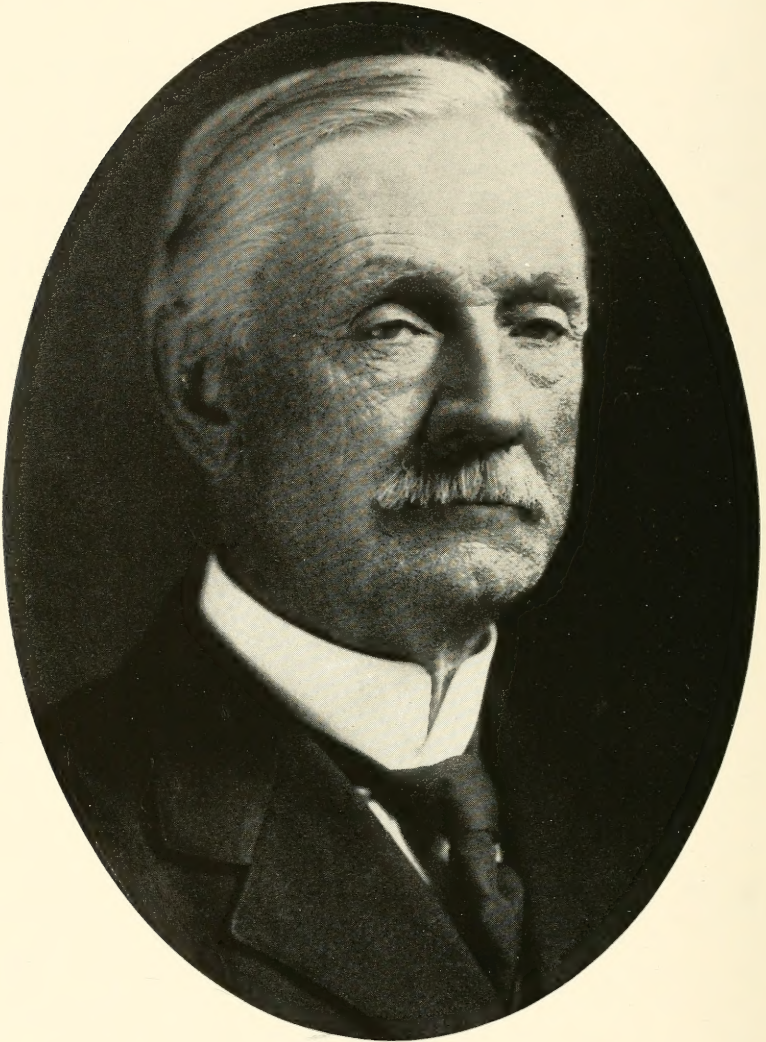
The most famous case of discipline recorded in the minutes covers eleven pages in the church minutes. A Mrs. Blackwood was reported as having departed from the Baptist faith. She had the Episcopal minister sprinkle her baby. Her husband was also called before the church and required to clear himself of consenting to the lapse in doctrine. He said that he told his wife that she could have the baby sprinkled if she wanted to but that he did not believe it would do the baby any harm or any good either. The church cleared him of any guilt in the matter.

The matter was so serious that the church called in "help" from several nearby churches. The leading brother in the trial was Dr. George W. Purefoy of Chapel Hill. He was well educated, and a Baptist of the strictest sort. He was a large slave owner and a noted fox hunter. He boasted that he hunted foxes in the winter seasons and Methodists in the summer. Sister Blackwood was found guilty of having departed from the faith of Baptists and was excluded from the church. Later she came back and confessed that she was wrong and that the church was right. She asked to be restored and this was done. She took a letter and joined the church in Durham.

### *Church Bell Given to the Confederacy*

On June 1, 1862, we read the following entry in the church minutes: "On motion it was agreed to give our

church bell to the Orange Light Artillery for the purpose of being cast into cannon for the use of the Confederate



JAMES E. JONES

States Army." The writer might say that his father, W. A. Maddry, was a member of this company.

After the war another bell was purchased, but proving unsatisfactory, it was sold and another one was purchased. This third bell still hangs in the belfry but is seldom used.



## *Building of the Church*

The Baptist Church sometime between 1854 and 1860 purchased from W. J. Freeland the lot upon which the present church stands. The lot contains two acres and extends from Margaret Lane along Wake Street to King Street. The cornerstone of the new church was laid in 1860. The architect was W. M. Percival and the builder was D. Kistler. The Building Committee was composed of J. M. Mitchell, J. M. Cheek, and H. C. Stroud. The church was to cost \$4,600. It seems from the imperfect record that trouble arose with the builder over the imperfections in the brick work. In the meantime, the Civil War engulfed the South in the spring of 1861 and the church lost the money saved for the building in worthless Confederate bonds and in the failure of the Hillsboro Savings Institution. We found in the old minute book a copy of a printed letter from Mrs. W. A. Graham, wife of Governor Graham. This letter tells of the financial troubles of the church more eloquently than this writer could tell them. We therefore insert this letter in full:

### *Baptist Church, Hillsboro, N. C.*

The Baptists of Hillsboro', N. C., respectfully ask you to read the following brief statement, as their apology for soliciting a contribution of *One Dollar* from yourself, and others who may be willing to aid them.

In 1860, a donation of two thousand dollars, together with several liberal subscriptions from friends, induced the Baptists of Hillsboro' to undertake the erection of a CHURCH to cost forty-six hundred dollars. Having "counted the cost before they began to build," they met promptly all the payments, required by the contract during the progress of the work, and had sufficient funds remaining to complete the building; but in the brickwork, there were several departures from the Specifications of the Contract, which materially injured the building, and which the Contractor promised to rectify. While waiting for the Contractor to comply with the requirements of the contract before the last payment upon the brickwork would become due, or the woodwork could be finished, the greater portion of the surplus funds of the Church was placed in the Hillsboro' Savings Institution. At the close of the war the Institution shared the fate of many Southern Banks, and the money was lost, as well as one thousand dollars which had been otherwise disposed of for safe keeping. As it was owing to no failure on the part of the Church, that the rectification of the

errors and omissions in the brickwork was delayed, while their money which had been at par, was constantly depreciating till it became worthless, the Church refused to acknowledge a claim for the last payment upon the brickwork, but made an effort with the aid of kind friends, and many sacrifices on their own part, to raise a second time, a sufficient amount to complete their house, which was then unfit for occupation, and becoming more and more injured by the delay.

In the Spring of 1869, the Contractor presented his claim for the last payment upon the brickwork of fourteen hundred dollars, with interest from 1862, and the matter was submitted to arbitration. The Arbitrators gave to the Contractor an award of eleven hundred and seven dollars, with interest from date, May 22d, 1869. The Church has recently paid three hundred dollars of this award, but their membership has been so reduced in numbers, and impoverished by the misfortunes of the war, that they are under the necessity of seeking assistance to liquidate the balance. Will you not send them *One Dollar* for this purpose?

Please forward to Mrs. S. W. Graham  
Hillsboro', N. C.

The church sold the house and lot at the corner of Churton and Queen streets in 1862, as described in the following document as recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds of Orange County:

Stroud      This indenture made this 18th day of Augt. AD 1862  
& others    between H. C. Stroud John Cheek & William Ward  
             to      Trustees of the Baptist Church in the town of Hills-  
Bishop      boro & George Bishop of the Town of Newberne County  
             of Craven State of N. C. Witnesseth that said H. C.  
Stroud John Cheek & William Ward Trustees for and in considera-  
tion of the sum of Seven Hundred and Fifty Dollars to them in  
hand paid the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged hath given  
granted bargained and sold & conveyed and by these presents doth  
give grant bargain and sell and convey to the said George Bishop  
his heirs and assigns a certain lot or parcel of Land containing one  
half of three fourths of an acre more or less and being in the town  
of Hillsboro Known as the Old Baptist Church lot bounded as  
follows on the West by Churtin Street on the North by Queen  
Street on the East by Margaret Wall & on the South by Josiah  
Turner it being a part of Lot No 80 in the town of Hillsboro ac-  
cording to the plan of said town. To have and to hold all the  
aforesaid lot or parcel of land with the appurtenances to the said  
George Bishop his heirs and assigns forever against the claims of  
all persons whatsoever and they do further covenant that the said  
H. C. Stroud John Cheek & William Ward is Seized of the premises



in fee Simple & has power to make and convey such an estate by this indenture and has done the same by these presents.

In Witness Whereof the said parties of the first part has hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year above written.

Signed sealed & delivered	H. S. Stroud	(seal)
in presence of	John Cheek	(seal)
Test John Turner	Wm Ward Ser	(seal)



J. R. CANTRELL

George Bishop of Newbern sold the house and lot to Ellerton P. Morris, Anthony M. Krinber, and Richard Cadberry of Philadelphia for the sum of twelve hundred dollars. These men are designated as "friends of the colored freemen" of Hillsboro. Mr. Bishop made a good trade for himself, clearing five hundred dollars on the transaction. The church became the home of the Negro Methodists of Hillsboro and continues as such until this day.

We do not know when the Baptists moved into the new house. It must have been around 1864. The evidence goes to show that the church worshiped in the basement of the new church for some years. Also the record shows that the building was completed by John Berry, a well-known architect and builder.

### *Meeting of the Baptist State Convention*

The Baptist State Convention met with the Hillsboro Church in 1868. The delegates were entertained in the homes of the people of the town, irrespective of denomination. Judge Ruffin made a special request for Elias Dodson, saying "he is the best historian and the most entertaining man I have ever met."

Reverend F. M. Jordan in the *Life and Labors of Elder F. M. Jordan* tells us that he often preached to the Negro slaves of Hillsboro in the basement of the Baptist Church. One night they gave him so much Confederate money that he had to carry it home tied up in his handkerchief. He adds, however, that it was almost worthless. Soda was selling for fifty cents a pound and Irish potatoes for thirty dollars a bushel. Mr. Jordan says he baptized and married many of the colored members. Around the year 1868, the Negro members of the Baptist Church took letters and organized a church of their own. Today the colored Baptist Church is one of the largest churches in Hillsboro in numbers. They have a splendid meeting house and a good pastor who has been with them for more than twenty years.

### *The Baptist Church Has Had Its Difficulties*

Before the Civil War, the Baptist Church was a vigorous and aggressive group. The membership decreased greatly during the War, and in the years following was weak and often without a pastor for months at a time. When the



writer came as pastor in 1902, the membership had decreased year by year until there were only twenty-one members. The salary was seventy-five dollars a year for one Sunday in each month, services morning and night.

The membership grew around 1915 until there were nearly three hundred members. The membership now stands at two hundred and fifteen.



MR. AND MRS. S. W. OLDHAM

### *Sunday School Equipment Sorely Needed*

For a quarter of a century the church has felt keenly the need for an educational building. During the pastorate of Mr. Abernethy plans were secured and brick were placed on the ground. Because of lack of funds and disagreement among the members the brick were disposed of and the matter was dropped.

### *A Tragic Disagreement*

About 1948, a young pastor came and there were high hopes on the part of the church that a new day of progress and advancement had come.

But soon there was disagreement between the pastor and a majority of the church members. We are not assessing blame. In fact, both sides were to blame. A goodly number of the church withdrew. A new church was organized and a number of valuable members of the old church went into the new organization.

### *The Beginning of a Second Pastorate*

At the beginning of 1951, the present pastor began a second pastorate—fifty-two years after the first one. The following editorial appeared in the *News and Observer*:

#### *Circle*

Not many men are given either the wisdom or the chance to round out their lives in such service and satisfaction as that which lies before Dr. Charles E. Maddry, great elder statesman of the Baptist denomination.

Other able men after long active and eminent careers have politely declined to grow dusty in dignity on any shelf no matter how highly elevated and venerated. Indeed, in retirement Dr. Maddry has worked at his writing with a steady energy surpassing that of many younger men. Even such labors, however, seemed a "loafing" in life and service to a man who had not only served large churches in several states, but as executive secretary of the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, had gone to every mission field of his denomination in every part of the world. The dangers and excitements of such service perhaps came to its climax when Dr. Maddry's mission brought him to Hawaii at the time when the Japs bombed Pearl Harbor.

Such a man was entitled to rest as age caught up with his labors. And to give Dr. Maddry credit for an attempt at con-



formity, he tried it. His writings prove, however, that he tried such rest very restlessly. If the calendar counted his years, it could not measure his continuing eagerness to be of service still. Now, in an almost miraculous closing of the good circle of a good life, he goes back in age to become the permanent pastor of the church in Hillsboro where he began his ministry while still a student and almost a boy.

One well known North Carolinian once wrote a great novel called "You Can't Go Home Again." A man, he suggested, cannot hope to go back to the old places and his youth in them. Dr. Maddry knows better. In his age he knows that there can be no better place to serve at last than where he sought with young eagerness to serve first. He goes in demonstration that the best old age is not an unraveling but a wholeness. He goes back after a career as wide as the world to a task which seemed only as big as a small church in a little town. It takes some time for a man to realize that the village pastorate contains the world and the world can never be greater in its challenge to a good man than the spiritual needs of a few people within the walls of a small church.

Dr. Maddry's loafing is ended if it ever began. His first church will provide the benediction of his last years. The small church will be blessed, too, in the discovery that it deserves the concern of a minister and a gentleman whose pastorate not long ago was the whole wide world.

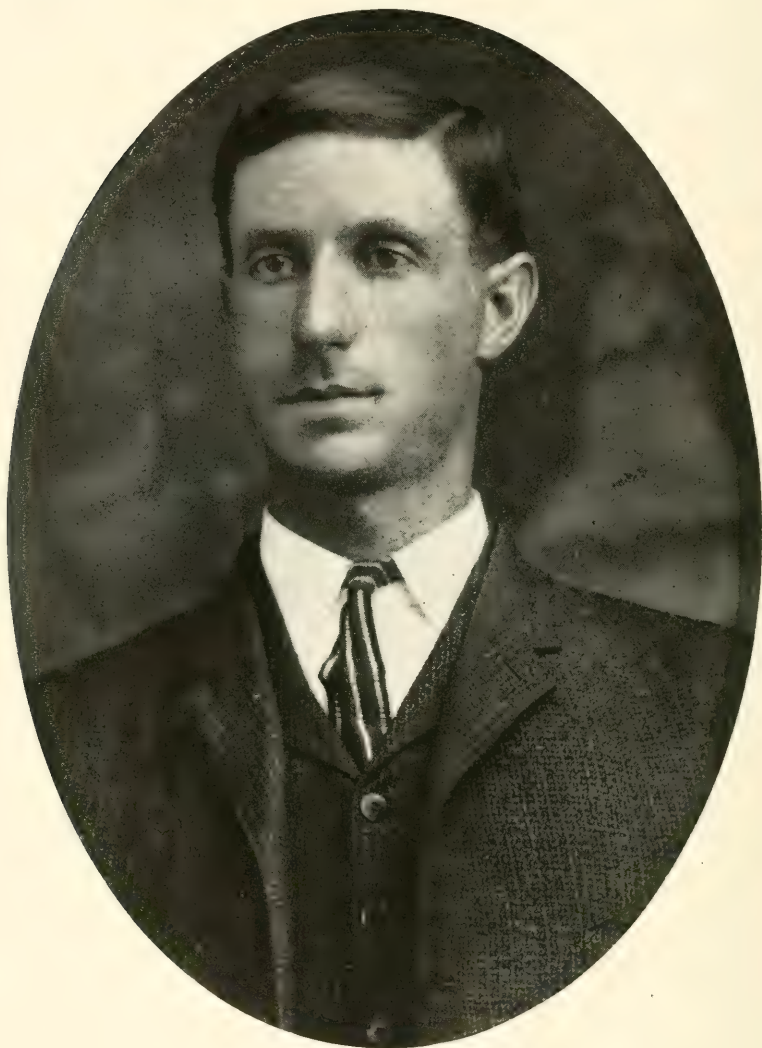
### *New Building Begun*

In the summer of 1952, the church finally launched the movement to erect an Educational Building. Through the years the church had slowly been paying on Building and Loan stock until the sum amounted to a little more than fifteen thousand dollars. The church put on a campaign for additional funds and up to the present time, we have raised some fifteen thousand dollars additional. We have borrowed another fifteen thousand, making a total of forty-five thousand dollars.

It appears now that the building when finally finished will cost close to sixty thousand dollars. We have erected a splendid educational plant which will care for an organized graded Sunday School of at least five hundred pupils. We hope the building will be finished before the celebration of the centennial.

The church is now united and growing slowly. The schism is rapidly being healed. The future is bright with promise and we celebrate the centennial with gratitude and

a new dedication to the Lord Christ, the Great Head of the Church.



PASTOR A. C. HAMBY

*Finances and Repairs*

From the very beginning the church had trouble with contractors and repairs. The brick work was unsatisfactory and ten years after the building was finished there was a

difference between the Building Committee and the contractor. It was finally settled by arbitration, the contractor having to take less by some five hundred dollars than he claimed. Then there were constant repairs from year to year. In 1871, the deacons were instructed to raise funds for the purpose of erecting doors to the balcony.

In 1872, the church ordered that a cistern be constructed for collecting rain water for the baptistry. We found the old cistern under the rear of the church when excavations were being made for the new building. Those builders in 1872 had done a good job!

In 1870, it was decided to raise funds for the purchase of an organ. The committee reported later that no contributions were received. The choir leader continued to "hist" the tunes with his tuning fork.

At the same time it was decided to put a lightning rod on the tower of the church. The funds were raised. In 1871, the church was trying to raise funds for the erection of a fence around the church lot. Cattle ran loose and the church grounds had become a grazing ground for all the stray cattle of the community. Later money had to be raised for repairing the rear fence.

In 1872, a committee was appointed to do something about the leaking of the parapet walls. The committee reported that skilled workmen in roofing, guttering, and brick work had been called in and the work was done. However, through the years the same complaints came up to trouble the church. In 1889, Dr. J. S. Spurgeon was appointed to have the church thoroughly repaired. Windows and walls were strengthened with bolts and rods through the rafters. The total cost was \$130.00.

### *Evangelistic Meetings*

The growth of the church has been slow through the one hundred years of its life. In the beginning the town was pre-occupied by the Episcopalians and the Presbyterians. The Baptist increase had to come from the country churches round about. There were few industrial interests in the town and the population has remained static for seventy-five years. However, there have been times when the increase was encouraging.



In 1858, there were twenty-two members received by baptism in one year, and, strange to say, the church did not have a pastor at the time. We surmise that the church



PASTOR IRA E. D. ANDREWS

must have called in a brother with evangelistic gifts during that year. However, the minutes make no reference to the matter. In 1869 the following were received for baptism:

Susan Washington Graham, who later married Judge Walter Clark. During a long life she was an active and aggressive member of the First Baptist Church of Raleigh. At the same time Elizabeth Ann Wilson, Robert H. Graham, and William A. Newman were received for baptism.

On June 8, 1900, the following were baptized by Pastor Wade D. Bostic following a gracious revival conducted by Reverend John T. Edmundson of Goldsboro; viz.: Mrs. Sarah Lassiter, John H. Parker, Frank Parker, and Mertie Tinnin.

During the pastorate of Reverend Ira E. D. Andrews in 1907, following a revival conducted by Charles E. Maddry, the following were baptized: Mary Taylor, Emily Taylor, Lillie Newman, Mary Spurgeon, Mary Thompson, Francis Calvert, and T. D. Tinnin.

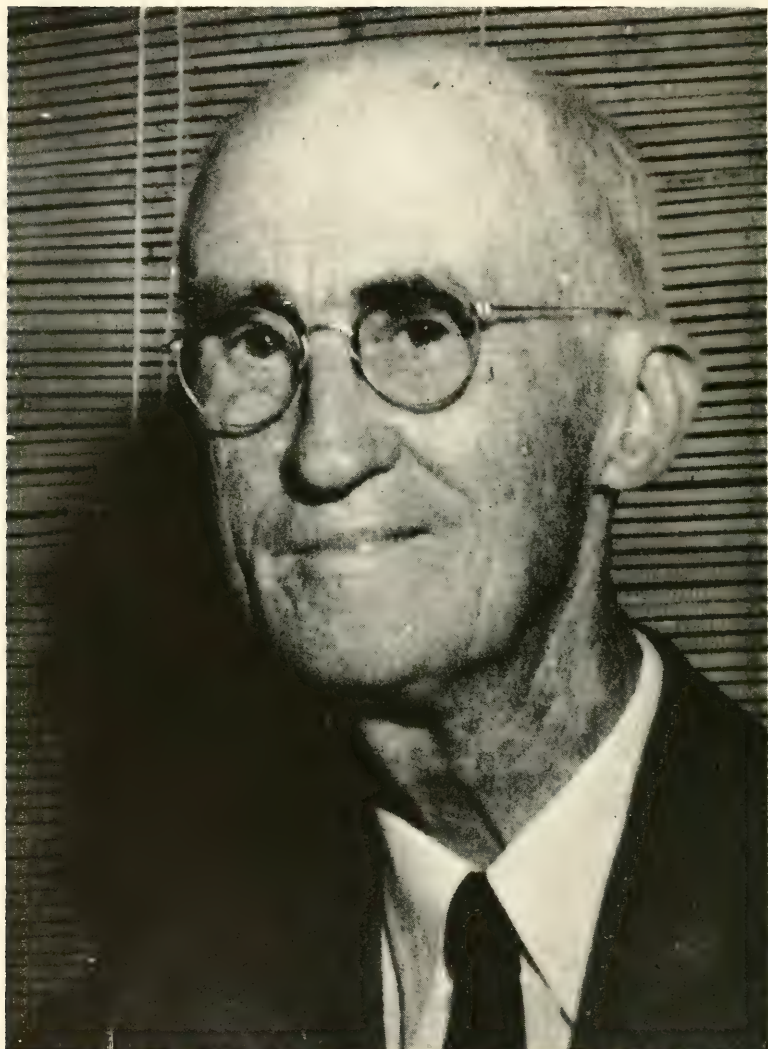
On September 22, 1907, Thomas D. Sparrow and wife, and daughters, Mary E. and Eunice were received by letter from the West Chapel Hill Church.

During the pastorate of A. K. Cheek, there were some gracious revivals and many additions to the church. In April 1939, Charles E. Maddry, Executive Secretary of the Baptist Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, preached for one week and the following joined the church by baptism: Bobby Knight, Sue Walters, Dwight Walters, Joe Lloyd, Billie Lloyd, Helen Tapp, Lawrence Summey, Faye Smith, J. G. Goodwin, Jr., Carine Goodwin, Jacquelin Goodwin, Virginia Sue Rosemond, Marion Cates, William Crabtree, Julian Carr, Dickey Thompson, Fred Thompson, Marvin Walker, Irene Hogan, Julia Hogan, Dorothy Roberts, Marie Scott, Colline Woods, Margaret Tolar, Margie Cole and Mrs. C. I. Walters. The following were received by letter: W. B. Coleman, Frank Coleman, Elizabeth Coleman, Audrey Walker, H. Greason, Jr., Mrs. F. F. Scarce, Mrs. Mary Scarlette, Worth Haithcock, Mrs. L. L. Boggs, Mrs. Tom Thompson, Mrs. Lottie Bradford, Mrs. H. K. Greason, J. H. Ball and wife, Mrs. Callie Wilkie, Sam Price, Mrs. T. M. Freeman, Mrs. Paul Hogan, and Mrs. Juanita Smith.

On April 23, 1939, the Board of Deacons and Trustees adopted the following resolutions: "That the First Baptist Church of Hillsboro erect a baptismal pool in honor of

Charles E. Maddry, and a suitable marker be placed thereon." We wonder what became of the marker.

During the year 1939, there was a total of forty-seven



J. R. GREEN

received. The membership of the church was 233 and a total enrollment in the Sunday school of 258.

In October 1939, the following were received by baptism: Mrs. Elizabeth Riley, Mr. I. O. Cooke, Mrs. H. D. Gilbert,



Ophelia Riley, Frances Cook, E. R. Maner, Billie Cooke, Holt Meyer, Kenneth Rosemond, and Arnold Hastings.

In many ways the pastorate of Reverend A. K. Cheek was the most successful in the history of the church. The total budget of the church for 1940 was \$1,983.

During the pastorate of A. C. Hamby, there were quite a number of additions to the church. In July the following were received for baptism: Fannie Graham, Ozie Lassiter, Ada Newman, Bessie Carmichel, Lonness Weaver, and Mrs. A. T. Waggoner.

In October 1900, at the request of Betheden Baptist Church, the Hillsboro Church ordained Robert P. Walker to the gospel ministry.

### *Associational Affiliations*

When the church was organized in 1853, it joined the Beulah Association later the church joined the Mt. Zion Association, which was organized at Mt. Moriah Church.

### *Prayer for the Confederacy*

On June 2, 1861, the church met in prayer in answer to the proclamation of President Davis of the Confederacy.

### *Debt Finally Paid*

In March 1870, Mrs. Susan Washington Graham reported that the last of the debt on the church house had been paid and the proper vouchers for the same were at the disposal of the church. After fourteen years the debt was paid, largely through the generosity of Mrs. Graham and her friends. It was a glad day for the church!

### *Some Results of Our Second Pastorate*

In May 1951, Reverend H. T. Stevens of Portsmouth held a meeting of one week. The following were received as members of the church: Mary Alice Crawford, Dell Parker, and Fred Sharpe, Jr. Kenneth Rosemond was received by letter from our church at Boone.

On April 27, Reverend Charles A. Maddry, pastor of Temple Baptist Church Durham, came and preached a week. The following were received for baptism: Roy D.

Crawford, Joe Crawford, Essie Bobbitt, Joe Blackwelder, Laura Faucette, Brenda Kennedy, Yvonne McDade, Merle Mitchell, Geraline Murray, Nancy Pope, Dell Parker, Syl-



PASTOR CHARLES H. CALDWELL

via Strayhorne, Tommy Sharpe, Peggy Turner, Elizabeth Turner, Elizabeth Walters, and Eleanor Knight, eighteen in all.

On April 19, 1953, Reverend L. H. Hollingsworth, pastor at Boone, came and preached for a week. A gracious revival followed. The church was greatly blessed and the following united with the church by baptism: Mrs. W. W. McDade, Patricia Beck, Brenda Woods, Marlene Oakley, and Lucile Riley.

On April 10, 1953, the pastor celebrated his seventy-seventh birthday. The church members and friends called from seven to nine to pay their respects. They brought a birthday gift of \$826.00 for the building fund.

### *Ordination Service*

In June 1952, the church ordained a young brother, J. G. Goodwin, to the gospel ministry. This young man has shown decided gifts of ability as a preacher. He plans to go as a missionary in about two years. In the meantime, he has accepted a call to the church in Clyde and began his ministry with this church on the 21st of June 1953.

### *Revising the Church Roll*

Early in the year 1953, the church instructed the pastor and the church clerk to carefully revise the church roll. It was found that fifty-nine members could not be located. Many of them had joined other churches without notifying the home church. The pastor wrote to all whose addresses could be found and suggested that they take letters and join churches in their community. The roll was revised and more than fifty members were placed on an inactive list. The church membership now stands at 215.



## SOME DEVOTED SERVANTS OF THE CHURCH DURING THE LONG YEARS

Some of the former members of the Hillsboro church have rendered long and devoted service in the cause of Christ. We would pay homage, first of all, to Mrs. William A. Graham, wife of a former governor, who was instrumental in the organization of the church and in the erection of the present building. When the money saved for the building was lost during the Civil War, Mrs. Graham sent out hundreds of letters to personal friends far and near; after ten years of continuous effort, the debt was finally paid.

Then came church clerk and deacon James E. Jones who for many years served the church with loyalty and generosity. Parham H. Smith, long-time deacon, who loved his church with Christ-like devotion, was unsurpassed for loyalty and liberality. Certainly, we should mention William H. Newman, for so many years a deacon and trustee and always unfailing in his consecrated loyalty. Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Parker who were active members of the church for a decade around 1900 were the parents of Mrs. Maddry. Mr. Parker often led the business meetings of the church and was presiding officer of the church conference when the present pastor was called in 1901.

No history of this church would be complete without a tribute to Dr. J. S. Spurgeon. For more than sixty years he was a member of this church and for sixty-three years practiced dentistry in Hillsboro. He was superintendent of the Sunday school, deacon, clerk and treasurer at various times. Mrs. Spurgeon is one of the two persons now members of the church when the present pastor first came here fifty-three years ago; the other one is Mrs. Charles E. Maddry.

In later years we should pay tribute to Mr. and Mrs. Gary W. Lloyd, Mr. and Mrs. M. P. Lloyd and Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell Lloyd. These three families with their children have rendered unfailing service to the church. Three of the senior deacons who are honored for their long service are: Deacon W. Henry Walker who has served for many years as chairman of the Board of Deacons; Mrs. Walker has been a faithful leader in every phase of the life of the

church. Mr. Julian S. Carr, a long-time deacon, has always been generous with his means and, until poor health prevented, was constant in attendance upon all the church



MR. AND MRS. W. W. ABERNATHY

services. A. J. and Olivia Lloyd Snipes are also steadfast workers in the church. One who should be mentioned for his long service to his church is Marshall L. Cates, a con-

stant attendant, a generous supporter and a loyal follower of his pastor. Mr. and Mrs. John Clayton are long-time members who are still rendering valuable service.



A. K. CHEEK

There are many other younger members of the church who have been faithful and devoted and whom we would delight to mention if space permitted.



### *Young People's Work*

Early in 1952, the church employed Reverend J. C. Rittenhouse, a student at the Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary at Wake Forest to take charge of the B.T.U. work of the church. Mr. Rittenhouse has been with us now for about eighteen months and has wrought wonders with the work of the young people. There are now enrolled eighty-odd members and splendid work is being done.

### *Centennial Year*

On November 19, 1953, the church will celebrate one hundred years of organized life in Hillsboro. A worthy program is being prepared and the church is looking forward to this event with great joy and anticipation. The new Educational Building will be finished before that time and the church, for the first time in one hundred years, will have a plant adequate for its needs.

A new day is dawning for the church and a new challenge calls to new consecration for the larger tasks that lie ahead.

“Forgetting those things that are behind and stretching forward to the things that are before, I press forward toward the goal unto the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 3:13.

# MEMBERS OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH HILLSBORO, N. C., 1953

Allred, Charles	Cates, M. L.
Allred, James P.	Cates, Marvin
Allred, Mrs. James P.	Cates, Mrs. Sectt
Allred, T. L.	Clayton, John
Baity, Mrs. Nancy H.	Clayton, Mrs. John
Baldwin, Mrs. Guy H.	Cole, Mrs. A. C.
Baldwin, Guy H., Sr.	Coleman, Frank
Baldwin, Guy H., Jr.	Coleman, H. G.
Baldwin, Mrs. W. M.	Coleman, Mrs. H. G.
Ball, J. H.	Coleman, H. G., Jr.
Ball, Mrs. J. H.	Coleman, W. B.
Barbour, Mrs. Lillie H.	Coleman, Mrs. W. B.
Beck, B. E.	Collins, Bobby
Beck, Mrs. B. E.	Collins, Donald
Beck, Patricia	Collins, Mrs. J. S.
Bivins, Mrs. Alda	Collins, Kenneth
Bivins, John	Crabtree, A. W.
Bivins, Mrs. Myrtle	Crabtree, Mrs. A. W.
Blake, Fred	Crabtree, Mrs. James
Blake, Mrs. Fred	Crabtree, William A.
Blake, Fred, Jr.	Crawford, Mrs. Bertha
Blake, Phylis	Crawford, Eugene
Blackwelder, Joe	Crawford, Hilda
Blackwelder, Mrs. Nordena	Crawford, Joe
Bobbitt, Anita	Crawford, Mary Alice
Bobbitt, Elsie	Crawford, Nancy
Boggs, Charles	Crawford, Roy D.
Boggs, Mrs. L. C.	Crawford, Mrs. Roy D.
Boone, F. A.	Davis, Carolyn
Boone, Mrs. F. A.	Davis, Mrs. J. A.
Broadwell, H.	Farmer, Annie Lou
Broadwell, Mrs. H.	Frederick, Clara
Brown, Arthur	Frederick, J. R.
Brown, Mrs. H. L.	Frederick, Louise
Brown, N. S.	Gates, Mrs. Mable
Bruno, Tony	Goodwin, Carene
Bruno, Mrs. Tony	Goodwin, J. G.
Caldwell, Mrs. C. A.	Goodwin, Mrs. J. G.
Carr, Alfred	Goodwin, Jacqueline
Carr, Mrs. B. S.	Goodwin, Paul
Carr, Claiborne	Greason, Mrs. H. K.
Carr, Mrs. Claiborne	Greason, H. K., Jr.
Carr, Mrs. C. E.	Haithcock, W. B.
Carr, J. M.	Haithcock, Mrs. W. B.
Carr, Mrs. J. M.	Hastings, Arnold
Carr, Julian	Hawkins, Bettie Sue
Cates, Mrs. Julian	Hayes, Mrs. Arthur

Hayes, Betty June  
 Hayes, Christine  
 Hayes, Helen  
 Hayes, Madge  
 Hayes, Mrs. Robbie  
 Hocutt, Clarence  
 Hogan, Julia  
 Hogan, Mrs. P. W.  
 Horn, Mrs. Emma  
 Horn, James  
 Howerton, Carol  
 Howerton, Doris  
 Howerton, Lillian  
 Jones, Vernon  
 Joyner, F. E.  
 Kennedy, Brenda  
 Kennedy, Willie  
 Kennedy, Mrs. Willie  
 Kenyon, Calvin  
 Knight, Bobby  
 Knight, Eleanor W.  
 Knight, Mrs. J. W.  
 Lassiter, Mrs. C. R.  
 Lineberger, E. B.  
 Lineberger, Mrs. E. B.  
 Lloyd, G. W.  
 Lloyd, Mrs. G.W.  
 Lloyd, Jackie  
 Lloyd, Joe  
 Lloyd, M. P.  
 Lloyd, Mrs. M. P.  
 Lloyd, Mitchell  
 Lloyd, Mrs. Mitchell  
 Lloyd, Mitchell, Jr.  
 Lloyd, William H.  
 Lloyd, Winifred  
 Long, Mrs. Thelma L.  
 McAdams, Lavarah  
 McBane, G. C.  
 McBane, Mrs. G. C.  
 McBane, G. C., Jr.  
 Maddry, Dr. Charles E.  
 Maddry, Mrs. Charles E.  
 Mangum, Billie  
 Mangum, Clarence  
 Mangum, Mrs. Clarence  
 McDade, Mrs. W. P.  
 McDade, Mrs. Wayne  
 McDade, Yvonne  
 Mauer, E. R.

Mauer, Mrs. E. R.  
 Midgette, Mrs. J. B.  
 Minnis, Mrs. Marjorie  
 Mitchell, A. L.  
 Mitchell, Mrs. A. L.  
 Mitchell, Mrs. A. S.  
 Mitchell, Billie R.  
 Mitchell, Merle  
 Mitchell, William  
 Murray, Edward  
 Murray, Mrs. Edward  
 Murray, Geraline  
 Myers, Holt  
 Neighbors, Mrs. John  
 Neighbors, Peggy  
 Newman, Miss Ada  
 Oakley, Marlene  
 Oakley, Mrs. Wilson  
 Parker, Dell  
 Parker, Randolph  
 Parker, Mrs. Randolph  
 Parrish, Dorothy  
 Pennington, Mrs. Harold  
 Pope, Mrs. Gertrude  
 Pope, Mrs. Nancy M.  
 Privette, Betty  
 Privette, Billie  
 Privette, Lois  
 Privette, Ruth  
 Ray, Mrs. Catherine C.  
 Raynor, John  
 Raynor, Mrs. W. J.  
 Raynor, Will  
 Reeves, Jimmie  
 Reeves, Johnie  
 Reeves, Mrs. Laura  
 Reeves, Paul J.  
 Reeves, Mrs. Paul J.  
 Riley, Billy  
 Riley, Janet  
 Riley, Lucille  
 Riley, Mrs. Otto  
 Rittenhouse, Rev. W. H.  
 Rittenhouse, Mrs. W. H.  
 Roberts, Mrs. A. C.  
 Roberts, Mrs. Dufford  
 Roberson, Clarence  
 Roberson, Mrs. Clarence  
 Roberson, Mrs. Gertrude  
 Rosemond, Clarence



Ross, Mrs. Coleen W.	Sykes, Mrs. Phillip
Rosemond, Everette	Sykes, Phillip, Jr.
Rosemond, Frances	Strayhorn, A. T.
Rosemond, J. L.	Strayhorn, Mrs. A. T.
Rosemond, Mrs. J. L.	Strayhorn, Carolyn
Rosemond, Joyce	Strayhorn, Mrs. H. H.
Rosemond, Kenneth	Strayhorn, Hilda
Rosemond, Robert L.	Strayhorn, Mrs. S. H.
Scott, Mrs. Clyde H.	Strayhorn, Sylvia
Scott, Curtis	Strayhorn, Vivian
Scott, Mrs. Curtis	Styers, T. O.
Secarce, Mrs. L. L.	Styers, Mrs. T. O.
Scott, Melvin	Swainey, Mrs. Hilda S.
Scott, Phillip	Tapp, Mrs. George
Scott, Roland C.	Tapp, Kathleen
Scott, Mrs. Roland C.	Thompson, Catherine
Scott, Mrs. W. A.	Thompson, Dickie
Scott, Wesley	Thompson, Fred
Sharpe, Delbert	Thompson, T. A.
Sharpe, Fred S.	Toler, Margaret
Sharpe, Mrs. Fred S.	Toler, Mildred
Sharpe, Freddie	Turner, Mrs. B. G., Sr.
Sharpe, Tommie	Turner, B. G., Jr.
Snipes, A. J., Sr.	Turner, John
Snipes, Mrs. A. J., Sr.	Turner, Mrs. John
Snipes, A. J., Jr.	Vaughan, Mrs. J. A.
Snipes, Mrs. A. J., Jr.	Walker, Aubrey
Snipes, Jack	Walker, W. H.
Spurgeon, Mrs. J. S.	Walker, Mrs. W. H.
Spurgeon, Mary	Walters, Mrs. C. I.
Sparrow, Betty Mae	Walters, Dwight
Sparrow, Butler	Walters, Elizabeth
Sparrow, Mary	Walters, Sue
Sparrow, T. A.	Watkins, Allen
Squires, Mrs. George	Watkins, Mrs. Herbert
Stone, Jerry	Whetstone, Mrs. Ethel
Stone, T. J.	Wilkie, Callie
Stone, Mrs. T. J.	Williams, Mrs. Nannie
Summey, Mrs. A. B.	Williamson, Robert
Summey, Currie	Woods, Anthamette
Summey, Daphene	Woods, Claude
Summey, Harold	Woods, Douglas
Summey, Osburn	Woods, Fred
Summey, Mrs. Osburn	Woods, Mrs. Fred
Sykes, Peggy	Woods, Mrs. W. D.
Wright, Mrs. A. Z.	

## BOARD OF DEACONS AND DEACONESSSES

W. H. Walker	Mrs. Hallie Murray
A. J. Snipes	T. O. Styers
J. M. Carr	M. P. Lloyd
J. P. Allred	John Clayton
Fred Sharpe	J. H. Ball
A. W. Crabtree	Roy D. Crawford
Mrs. J. G. Goodwin	G. C. McBane
Mrs. J. L. Rosemond	Willie Kennedy
Mrs. C. A. Caldwell	

## RETIRED DEACONS AND DEACONESSSES

A. J. Snipes, Jr.	M. L. Cates
G. W. Lloyd	Fred Blake
H. G. Coleman, Jr.	Worth Haithecock
Mrs. R. E. Bivins	

## BUILDING COMMITTEE

Fred Blake, <i>Chairman</i>	H. G. Coleman
A. W. Crabtree, <i>Treasurer</i>	John Clayton
G. W. Lloyd	Mrs. J. G. Goodwin
M. L. Cates	Mrs. A. L. Mitchell
W. H. Walker	Mrs. Ed Murray
A. J. Snipes	Mrs. J. L. Rosemond
Miss Mary Spurgeon	

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

A. W. Crabtree, <i>Treasurer</i>	H. G. Coleman, Jr.
Mrs. J. L. Rosemond, <i>Clerk</i>	Fred Blake
Leonard Mitchell	Worth Haithecock
Roy Crawford	Paul Reeves
Ed Murray	Gary Lloyd
Leonard Rosemond	Mrs. H. H. Strayhorn
J. P. Allred	Mrs. H. L. Brown

## TRUSTEES

A. J. Snipes	Fred Sharpe
H. G. Coleman, Jr.	

M. P. Lloyd, Superintendent of Sunday School

Mrs. H. L. Brown, President W. M. U.

Mrs. H. L. Brown, Pianist







